THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The promotions of officers of All India Services who are eligible for such promotions are based on an overall assessment of their record and performance in their career. A good record in field assignments will get reflected in this assessment.

(c) and (d) The women officers are considered alongwith other officers for promotion according to general instructions. Guidelines have been issued from time to time for career development of direct recruits in the IAS. Recently guidelines were issued laying emphasis on the placement of women officers in order to equip them for positions of higher responsibilities. It has been advised that adequate opportunities may be given to them to hold important field level assignments and in diverse areas of administration.

Memorandum to Prime Minister for Development of Tripura

1621. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several student and youth organisations of Tripura had submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister for the development of Tripura;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Public representatives and students and youth of Tripura in their Memorandum dated 8.5.1986 to the Prime Minister had asked for extension of rail link upto Agartala in the 7th Plan and provision of funds for gas-based fertilizer industry, a paper mill, a spinning mill and another jute mill in the State to generate job opportunities for the youth.

(c) The matter was examined in the Planning Commission and position in respect of the demands raised was indicated in the reply sent to Shri Hannan Mollah, M.P. through whom the above said Memorandum was received.

संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा भर्ती की परीक्षाओं अंग्रेजी के प्रश्न पत्र का समाप्त किया जाना

1622. श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि संघ लोक सेवा आयोग तथा कर्मचारी चयन आयोग द्वारा आयोजित भर्ती की सभी परीक्षाओं के लिए अंग्रेजी का एक प्रश्न पत्र अनिवार्य है; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इस प्रश्न पत्र को समाप्त करने का विचार रखती है; यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

कार्मिक लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री वीरेन सिंह इंगती) : (क) कर्मचारी चयन आयोग तथा संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा ली जाने वाली कुछेक परीक्षाओं के लिए अंग्रेजी भाषा का प्रश्न पत्र निर्धारित किया गया है न कि सभी परीक्षाओं के लिए ।

(ख) ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है ।

1623. [*Transferred to the 28th November*, 1986.]

Import of Equipment for Telephones

1624. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 678 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th July, 1986 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. C-Dot Electronics had offered to manufacture indigenously the telecommunications equipment like cable system, microwave electronic telephone lines etc. which Government propose to import from abroad; if so, whether this offer has been evaluated; and

(b) whether Bharat Electronics and Electronics Corporation of India are likely to suffer due to Ministry's import programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) is at present engaged in the design and development of a main Digital Electronic Switching System. The C-DOT is not engaged in the manufacture of any telecommunication equipment.

(b) No Sir.

Withholding of Central Permission for Bodghat Project

1625. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has withheld permission for Bodhghat Hydro-electrical project in Madhya Pradesh which required destruction of sal forests in Bastar; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) This project involves submergence of 5.704 ha. of rich sal forest. A decision on the diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has not been possible because of inconsistent forest details furnished so far. A field visit is to be made in December, 1986 to determine the exact quantum of forests likely to be lost.

Prior Central Approval for projects in States

1626. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many schemes in States such as Bodhghat hydel power scheme are initiated without obtaining Central clearance from ecological point of view;

(b) whether Government propose to urge States to obtain prior Central approval of the project which require destruction of forests; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Forest "Conservation" Act, 1980 which came into force in October, 1980 provides that forest land cannot be diverted to non-forest use without prior approval of the Central Government. All the States have been advised that *ex-post facto* approval would not be granted for diversion of forest lands and that they should not take anticipatory action.

Communal Riots in the States

1627. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of deaths and value of property lost due to communal clashes in the country, state-wise, during the period from January to July, 1986;

(b) the total number of major riots, state-wise and number of deaths due to communal riots during the corresponding period of 1985; and

(c) what specific steps if any, have been or being taken by Government to maintain communal harmony in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND